THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY
REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF DONALD H. NEWELL
D.T.E. 01-95

Q. Please state your name, position with the Wellesley Municipal Light Plant ("WMLP") and your business address.

A. My name is Donald H. Newell and I am currently the Electric Superintendent for the WMLP. My business address is 455 Worcester Street, Wellesley, Massachusetts.

Q. Please describe your education background and professional work experience.

A. I have thirteen years of experience in electrical distribution engineering, project management and supervision. Ten years of my experience was with Massachusetts Electric Company starting as a Distribution Engineer and progressing to become the Supervisor of Engineering Support Services. At Massachusetts Electric Company I worked with numerous customers, consultants and municipal electric companies on projects large and small to design distribution systems that met the requirements of the utility company as well as the needs of the customer.

For the last three years I have worked at the Wellesley Municipal Light Plant beginning as the Supervisory Electrical Engineer and I am currently the Electric Superintendent.

I earned my Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Lowell and have successfully passed the Fundamentals of Engineering exam, the first step toward registration as a Professional Engineer.

Q. What are your major responsibilities at the WMLP particularly those that pertain to this proceeding?

A. As the Electric Superintendent, in addition to my supervisory and administrative duties, I am responsible for the engineering, design, construction and operation of the Town of Wellesley's electrical power supply and distribution systems as well as employee and public safety, system reliability, cost and customer satisfaction.

Q. What is the purpose of your Testimony?

A. I am the WMLP employee that has primary responsibility for the engineering and design of electric service to Olin College.

Q. Was the process of designing the WMLP's interconnection for Olin College much different than your past experiences at the WMLP and Massachusetts Electric?

A. For the most part all of my discussions/planning with Olin and its consultants were very much like my past experiences with customers of this size with two notable exceptions. These were: first, our awareness that Olin was evaluating options to receive electric service from Boston Edison and secondly, Department approval was being required before a final design/interconnection could be completed.

Q. Please identify those "similar-sized" WMLP customers to which you have based your Olin experience with.

A. My latest experience was working with Sun Life of Canada and its consultant/contractors to install automatic switchgear to four office buildings in addition to constructing a new 100,000 square foot building. Before that I worked very closely with The Druker Company in the final installation of the electric service to Harvard Pilgrim's 275,000 square foot office building.

Q. Was the amount of time you spent and the work you performed for the Olin College interconnection much different than the time and work you would provide to similar-sized customers while working at Massachusetts Electric Company.

A. No. As a utility engineer it is not uncommon to review and redesign plans received from a customer's electrical consultant or architect several times during the design process. In most instances the customer contracts with a consultant to design their electrical system. In general these consultants have a great deal of experience in the design of the building electrical system however they often lack expertise in the design of primary distribution systems and utility interconnection.

Once the utility company and the electrical consultant agree to an electrical design the customer's architect or the customer requests design modifications for reasons of aesthetics, future land use plans, personal preference and various other reasons.

The employees at WMLP pride themselves in the customer service they provide. Part of this customer service is helping the customer end up with a safe, reliable and cost effective electrical system. To this end, early proactive communication with the customer and their consultant is required.

Q. Boston Edison Company questions the cost effect that Olin College's placement of interconnection facilities had with respect to costs comparisons. Would you please explain where and why Olin is strongly considering taking service from Babson's central distribution point?

A. This interconnection point makes sense for the following three (3) reasons:

1. electric service is currently, and has historically been, provided to this area of Needham using this engineering design;

2. there is no more cost effective interconnection given that the WMLP already has reliable and adequate three phase service to the distribution point and no additional improvements to WMLP's lines are required; and

3. not only is this interconnection cost effective and already operable, Olin's reliability requirements are fully satisfied given that the WMLP has not experienced an outage to the Babson College campus in 7 years.

Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

A. Yes it does.